



COMPUTER SCIENCE

Exam Board: OCR

Specification: [Click here for more information](#)

COURSE SUMMARY

Computer Science is a practical subject where you can apply the academic principles learned in the classroom to real-world systems. It's an intensely creative subject that combines invention and excitement, and looks at the natural world through a digital prism.

WHY STUDY COMPUTING?

If you enjoy problem solving, like making your own programs and are interested in how things work, this is your subject. Especially enjoyable is coding. The benefit of this subject is that it leads to good job prospects. *Christian*

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

Discussions cover a wide variety of interesting topics and in class the course theory is enriched through practical applications. A couple of hours every week are spent making programs. *Lily*

"When I leave school I hope to get a Masters degree in Computer Science and work as a systems analyst. I have studied Computing, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Physics." Christian

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a new linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two year linear course, with all units examined at the end of Year 13. AS Levels will still exist and can be taken as a stand-alone qualification at the end of Year 12, but students taking this option and then continuing to study the subject in Year 13 would have to sit all the A Level units as linear exams to gain that qualification.

MIGHT LEAD TO...

Computer Science is an extremely useful A Level, leading into a wide variety of computer-based disciplines. It combines well with maths and sciences and can lead on to a wide variety of careers and courses



in Information Communication Technology fields including networking, applications, games design and systems analysis, plus technologically rich subjects such as engineering or science. The course is equally suitable for students wishing to go straight into work or an advanced apprenticeship in which computing is an essential part of the work or training undertaken.

ADVICE ON ENTRY

This is a very challenging but exciting course. Students need to be prepared to put in a lot of their own time to master programming and the difficult theory work. Students choosing Computer Science in the Sixth Form are advised if you achieve mostly C grades at GCSE you are recommended to choose BTEC IT rather than A Level Computer Science. Students will not have needed to study Computing or IT at GCSE, but it would be greatly beneficial. Students taking Maths and Physics A Levels have been at an advantage when studying Computer Science.

READING AROUND THE SUBJECT

- [Multiwingspan](#)
- [Delphi basics](#)
- [Turing Archive](#)